

CHESTER-LE-STREET URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

BRIDGE END

CHESTER-LE-STREET

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1971

J. L. SIDDLE, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

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CHESTER-LE-STREET URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
BRIDGE END,
CHESTER-LE-STREET.

*The Chairman and Members of the
Chester-le-Street Urban District Council*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report for the year 1971.

The statistics showed little change there being a slightly lowered birth rate as compared with the previous year, the death rate also fell very slightly and the infant mortality rate rose but was still below the rate for the County. The number of cases of infectious diseases notified was very small the majority being measles and the paratyphoid cases were related to a family living in an adjoining district.

Improvement of private housing by means of grant continued and the Chief Public Health Inspector dealt with 99 applications during the year.

The annual report on the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963 by Mr. McKenna, the approved officer under the Act, has been included in the report as for previous years.

I wish to thank, in addition to the voluntary workers, the Chairman and all members of the Council for their continued support and help and also the various members of the staff for their efforts during the year.

Yours faithfully,

J. L. SIDDLE,

Medical Officer of Health

HEALTH COMMITTEE

1971

COUNCILLOR MRS. A. EYEINGTON (*Chairman*)

COUN. J. A. CUNNINGHAM,
B.SC., PH.D., M.P.

COUN. M. PRATT

COUN. T. E. DAVISON

COUN. J. R. REAY

COUN. W. H. DEAN

COUN. MRS. D. H. RIDDELL,
O.B.E., J.P.

COUN. W. GOWLAND

COUN. N. RIDDELL

COUN. N. LAMB

COUN. H. THOMAS, B.A.

COUN. C. F. C. LAWSON, D.L., J.P.

COUN. P. S. USHER, B.SC., J.P.

COUN. T. MCHUGH

COUN. W. WATSON

COUN. J. MOSS

COUN. J. WILLIS

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health:

JOHN LANGLEY SIDDLE, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.
(Joint appointment with R.D.C. and Durham C.C.)

Chief Public Health Inspector:

PHILIP McKENNA, M.A.P.H.I., C.R.S.H.

Public Health Inspector:

KEITH ATKINSON, M.A.P.H.I.

Clerical Staff:

LINDA ANNE WRIGHT

County Area No. 4 Clerk:

MARGARET ELIZABETH MITCHINSON

Rodent Operative:

RICHARD VICKERS

SECTION A

STATISTICAL AND LOCAL CONDITIONS IN THE AREA

I. Natural and Social Conditions Area—2,656 acres

The district is divided into six Wards, being almost completely encircled by the Chester-le-Street Rural District.

The Ward Acreages are as follows:—

North (East }	578
(West) }	
West	381
Central	160
South (Pt.1) }	491
(Pt.2) }	
Pelton Fell (Pt.1) }	678
(Pt.2) }	
Chester Moor	368

Industries

With the ending of Coal Mining in the District, the Town is essentially residential. Only limited light industry exists. The River-side area which has been developed by the Council for recreational purposes, tends during a fine week-end, to give the impression that the Town is developing as a holiday as well as a residential centre.

Population

The Registrar General's estimated Mid-year population for 1971 was 20,570, a fall as compared with the previous year of 300.

The 1971 Census Figure has been given as 20,531.

The change in population over the years is shown by the following figures:

1949	..	..	..	..	17,507
1950	..	..	..	..	18,620
1955	..	..	..	..	18,370
1960	..	..	..	..	18,770
1965	..	..	..	..	19,720
1967	..	..	..	..	20,300
1968	..	..	..	..	20,650
1969	..	..	..	..	20,800
1970	..	..	..	..	20,870
1971	..	..	..	..	20,570

Inhabited Houses

Numbers and types are given below:

Terraced Houses	..	..	1,826
Detached Houses	..	..	224
Semi-Detached Houses	..	..	2,043
Farm Houses and Cottages	..	..	8
Houses and shops combined	..	..	39
Council Houses	..	..	3,544

Rateable Value = £684,646 Estimated Product of the Penny Rate = £6,493

Births

In 1971 there were 333 live births (crude birth rate 15.9) as compared with 361 in 1970 (crude birth rate 17.3).

	<i>Male</i>		<i>Female</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>Legitimate</i>	<i>Illigitimate</i>	<i>Legitimate</i>	<i>Illigitimate</i>	
Live Births	152	6	168	2	328
Still Births ..	0	0	5	0	5
Total Births ..	152	6	173	2	333

Area Comparability Factor for Births: 1.03.

The Ratio of the Adjusted Birth Rate to the National Rate was 1.02

TABLE 1
BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1971

	Rate per 1,000 Total Population	Rate per 1,000 Total Births	Annual Death Rate per 1,000 population								Rate per 1,000 live Births	
	Live Births	Still Births	All Causes	Diphtheria	Whooping Cough	Pneumonia	Influenza	Tuberculosis (all forms)	Acute Polio- myelitis & polio- encephalitis	Malignant Neoplasm Lung, Bronchus	Coronary and arteriosclerotic heart disease	Total Deaths under 1 year of age
ENGLAND AND WALES	16.0	12.0	11.6	0.00	0.00	0.81	0.01	0.03	0.00	0.63	2.93	17.5
DURHAM COUNTY	16.0	13.0	13.6	0.00	0.00	0.68	0.01	0.02	0.00	0.64	3.12	19.0
CHESTER-LE-STREET	15.9	15.0	13.7	0.00	0.00	1.6	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.77	3.2	18.0

TABLE 2

Causes of Death	Total all Ages		Under 1 Year	1—	5—	15—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—	75 and over
	M.	F.										
Meningococcal Infection ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity, Etc. ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach ..	3	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine ..	5	6	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	2	6
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus ..	15	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	8	3	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast ..	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Malignant Neoplasms ..	5	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	2
Benign and unspecified Neoplasms ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	4
Anaemias ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Mental Disorders ..	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Multiple Sclerosis ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Other Diseases of Nervous System ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease ..	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	2
Hypertensive Disease ..	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	3
Ischaemic Heart Disease ..	41	25	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	12	22	26
Other Forms of Heart Disease ..	1	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	4	5
Cerebrovascular Disease ..	15	21	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	11	18
Other Diseases of Circulatory System ..	11	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	11
Pneumonia ..	15	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	4	26
Bronchitis and Emphysema ..	8	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	2	3
Asthma ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Other Diseases of Respiratory System ..	4	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	4
Peptic Ulcer ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Cirrhosis of Liver ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Other Diseases of Digestive System ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Nephritis and Nephrosis ..	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System ..	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1
Congenital Anomalies ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, Etc. ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Symptoms and ill defined conditions ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Motor Vehicle Accidents ..	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	1
All other accidents ..	2	6	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	4
All other external causes ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ALL CAUSES ..	148	133	6	—	1	—	2	10	16	46	72	128

Deaths

The total number of deaths in the district for 1971 was 281 as compared with 291 in 1970.

The following were the chief causes of death during the year:

TABLE 3

<i>Causes of Death</i>	1971		1970	
	<i>Number of Deaths</i>	<i>Per cent of total Deaths</i>	<i>Number of Deaths</i>	<i>Per cent of total Deaths</i>
1. Diseases of the Heart and Circulatory System	137	48.7	168	57.7
2. Cancer	57	20.3	40	13.7
3. Respiratory Diseases	49	17.4	47	16.2
4. Violent: Road Traffic Accidents (0) Suicide (2)	12	4.3	9	3.1
5. Tuberculosis	0	0	2	0.7

Cancer

The number of deaths from cancer rose considerably from 40 to 57. This increase was largely due to an increase under the headings of Cancer of stomach and intestines; the figure for 1970 and 1971 being 9 and 22 respectively. The largest single cause was again cancer of the lung which was responsible for 16 deaths (15 male : 1 female).

Coronary Artery Disease

Deaths under this heading fell from 82 in 1970 to 66 in 1971, (41 male and 25 female-. The death rate being 3.2 per 1,000 people. 18 of the deaths were in persons under the age of 65 years.

Respiratory Diseases

The number of deaths under this heading showed little change as compared with the previous year. There was a rise in the number of deaths from pneumonia and a corresponding fall in deaths from bronchitis and influenza.

Violent Deaths

The number of deaths under this heading rose to 12 : three more than in 1970.

Infant Mortality

The number of deaths in 1971 of children under 1 year of age was 6. The Infant Mortality Rate was 18, being a slight rise compared with 1970.

Three of the infants who died during the year were under 1 week old.

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

(1) Laboratory Facilities

The Public Health Laboratory, Newcastle is in the New Institute of Pathology at the General Hospital, Newcastle.

The Director is Dr. J. H. Hale.

The Laboratory continued to help the department by carrying out bacteriological examination of various samples (water, ice-cream, etcetera) submitted by the Health Department.

(2) Health Service Provided by the County Council

The administrative County is divided up into areas, Chester-le-Street Urban and Rural districts forming No. 4 area. For each area a Health Sub-Committee has been appointed to exercise on behalf of the County Health Committee, certain functions relating to services under the National Health Act, 1946. Certain services which were previously in the Health Department but are now in the Social Services Department—Home Helps; Mental Health; Hostel Services—are no longer included under this heading.

I am indebted to the County Medical Officer of Health for the statistics concerning the services in this part of the report.

(a) Health Visitors

As these have been reorganised and aligned with General Practitioners figures are no longer available.

(b) Clinics

The Mains Farm House, West Lane Clinic, is used to provide accommodation for various clinics run by the County Council.

Telephone number: Chester-le-Street 3286.

Ante-Natal
Relaxation
Child Welfare

(c) *Distribution of Welfare Foods*

National dried milk and vitamin tablets are distributed from the Welfare Centre as follows:—

Tuesday—all day
Wednesday—morning only

(d) *Midwives*

There are three Midwives residing and practising inside the district, and one residing outside the district. A summary of the work done is given below:—

Total Births (Live and still)	..	..	..	47
Cases attended as midwife and nurse	..	..	..	181
Hospital patients discharged before 10th day	..	..	..	131
Total cases attended..	..	..	..	181

(e) *Ambulance Depot*

The Chester-le-Street Urban District is served principally by the Ambulance Depot situated at Osborne Road, Chester-le-Street. Details of the service for 1971 are given as:—

1.	Total number of persons who used the service	..	25,013
2.	Number of sitting cases	.. ..	20,249
3.	Number of stretcher cases	.. ..	4,764
4.	Mileage	.. ..	151,064

(f) *Prevention of Illness and After-care*

Under this section of the National Health Service Act, the Durham County Council supply nursing requisites on loan to those who need them. A small store of articles is available at short notice at the No. 4 Area Health Office, Bridge End.

(g) *School Health Service*

The School Health Services in the area are provided by the County Council. The Service provides for systematic medical examination of pupils in the school and dental treatment of school children.

The school clinic for the area is now at Chester-le-Street.

(3) **Hospital Services**

Newcastle Regional Hospital Board	.. ..	Benfield Road, Walkergate, Newcastle upon Tyne.
Durham	.. ..	Dryburn Hospital, Durham

General:

Dryburn Hospital, Durham
County Hospital, Durham
St. Margaret's Hospital, Durham
General Hospital, Chester-le-Street
Highfield Hospital, Chester-le-Street

Maternity:
Dryburn Hospital, Durham

Infectious Diseases:
Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Gateshead
Langley Park Isolation Hospital (emergency reserve)

Tuberculosis:
Chest Clinic, General Hospital, Chester-le-Street
Mass Radiography Unit, Dryburn Hospital, Chester-le-Street
Maiden Law Hospital, Lanchester

Mental :
Winterton Hospital, Sedgefield
Aycliffe Hospital
Prudhoe and Monkton Hospital
General Hospital, Chester-le-Street

Venereal Disease:
General Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne

(4) **Executive Council**

The Executive Council for the County of Durham is the body responsible for the administration of the General Practitioners Services in the District.

The General Practitioners Services consist of the Family Doctor Service, the General Dental Service, the Pharmaceutical Service and the Supplementary Ophthalmic Service, each providing the patient with the individual attention needed. These services are available to all civilians according to their medical needs.

There are 12 General Practitioners practising in the Urban Area.

(5) **National Assistance Act, 1948**

(a) *Meals on Wheels*

There has been no change in the service as compared with the previous year. The Women's Royal Voluntary Service have continued to supply drivers and helpers whilst Rodney Dresses have supplied the meals. Both must be thanked for their help. The cost to the old persons has remained unchanged since the inauguration of the service (1/- or 5p). The additional cost has been shared between the County Council and the Urban District Council.

In all 5,252 meals were delivered.

(b) *Luncheon Clubs*

The three clubs continued to operate during 1971. Voluntary help has been readily available in each of the clubs in spite of the withdrawal of one or two organisations. The Council once again thank these workers for the help they gave so readily. During the year it was agreed to start a Luncheon Club at Chester Moor, but this was not ready for opening by the end of the year.

Meals served during the year:—

				1971	1970
Bullion Hall	..	..	..	7,184	5,868
South Pelaw	..	..	..	5,802	4,498
Pelton Fell	..	..	..	5,219	4,418

The total meals served for pensioners, Meals on Wheels and Luncheon Clubs during 1971 was 23,457 as compared with 20,187 the previous year.

(c) *Holidays for the Aged*

24 pensioners were sent to Southport for a weeks holiday. This was the sixth year that the scheme has been continued.

There were 43 applications and the selection was again based on age and length of time since last holiday.

The South Pelaw Women's Institute provided the helpers to go with the party and the Council are grateful to them for their help in making the holiday a success.

(6) **Chiropody—Aged Persons**

Clinics continued to be held in the Bullion Hall, South Pelaw Hall, Village Hall Pelton Fell and Chester Moor Recreation Room.

The British Red Cross Society organise the sessions with the aid of a grant from the Durham County Council. In each case the Urban District Council permit the use of their premises for the clinics.

Treatments were given as follows:—

Number of persons	..	..	..	..	..	305
Number of Treatments	..	..	..	..	..	953
Bullion Hall	..	..	..	..	..	141
South Pelaw	..	..	..	..	..	110
Pelton Fell	..	..	..	..	..	36
Chester Moor	..	..	..	..	..	18

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. Water

Piped water is supplied to the town by the Durham County Water Board. Routine samples are taken by the Public Health Inspector and sent for bacteriological examination at fairly frequent intervals and additional samples are submitted in the case of a complaint. 13 samples were taken and found to be satisfactoty.

Fluoridation of Water Supply

Fluoride is added to the water supply of the Honey Hill treatment works of the Durham Water County Board which supplies water to the district. An amount of 1. pp.m. is added and samples taken by the Board during the year were generally satisfactory.

Water Consumption

Chester-le-Street Urban District is in the Northern Division of the Durham County Water Board.

Consumption of water continues to rise as is shown by the figures below. :—

				<i>Domestic gallons per head, per day</i>	<i>Trade gallons per head per day</i>	<i>Total</i>
1968	..	..	..	30	15	45
1969	..	..	..	31	16	47
1970	..	..	..	31	16	47
1971	..	..	..	32	16	48

A rise of one gallon per head per day may not sound very much but for Chester-le-Street Urban District means 20,000 gallons per day which is over 7 million gallons each year.

The Board staff took 27 samples in the Chester-le-Street Urban District area all but one of which was satisfactory and this was found to be satisfactory after re-sampling.

Disinfestations

During the year treatment was carried out in 56 premises in order to deal with infestations of various types.

Clean Air Act, 1956—1968

No serious complaints arose from atmospheric pollution during the year. Smoke emissions from industrial premises were found to be due to mechanical defects or overloading of plant. All complaints were remedied without recourse to formal action.

The Council has not declared any smoke control Areas in the district but there has been a decrease in emissions due to (a) demolition of older property with coal fires (b) conversion to smokeless fuels in existing houses, both by the Council & Private owners in connection with Home Improvement Schemes (c) Many householders providing central heating by using smokeless fuel partly for convenience with no storage, cleaning or attendance problems.

Measurements of Smoke Concentration and SO₂ were recommenced during the year to monitor levels of pollution and results will be compared with previous years to indicate any progress made.

Scrap Metal Dealers Act, 1954

At the end of the year there were 16 scrap metal dealers registered by the authority.

The Council is required to keep a register of such dealers and to register upon application, any scrap metal dealer trading from premises in the area.

Pet Animals Act, 1951

3 licenses for the keeping of pet shops were issued during the year.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

During the year 20 new registrations were recorded. The total of premises registered at the end of the year being 198.

There were 114 General Inspections carried out and during these inspections particular attention was given to ways of preventing accidents and ensuring that machinery was correctly used.

A leaflet giving advice on the correct guarding of machinery issued by the Department of Employment and Productivity was distributed to all registered premises. In addition a letter was sent from this department to all employers reminding them of their obligations regarding the notification of accidents occuing on heir premises to members of their staff.

Ten non-fatal accidents were notified during the year.

Of the 94 contraventions found in the course of inspections 27 were in respect of defective floors, passages and stairs, all of which could be potentially dangerous and liable to cause accidents. In the majority of cases the contraventions were remedied following informal action.

Registration and General Inspections

<i>Class of Premises</i>	<i>Number of premises registered during the year</i>	<i>Number of registered premises at end of year</i>	<i>Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year</i>
Offices	11	56	42
Retail Shops	8	116	56
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	—	1	—
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	1	25	16
Fuel Storage Depots	—	—	—
Totals . .	20	198	114

Total number of visits of all kinds by inspectors to registered premises under the Act: 156.

In this schedule

“general inspection” means any inspection of premises to which the Act applies which is undertaken for the purposes of ascertaining whether all the relevant provisions of the Act and instruments thereunder are complied with as respects those premises; and “registered premises” means any premises in respect of which a notice under Section 49 of the Act has been received by a local authority or by the Greater London Council and the expression “premises registered” shall be construed accordingly.

(c) Analysis by Workplace of persons Employed in Registered Premises at end of year.

<i>Class of Workplace</i>	<i>Number of Persons Employed</i>
Offices	364
Retail Shops	883
Wholesale departments, Warehouses ..	16
Catering establishments open to the public ..	261
Canteens	—
Fuel storage depots	—
Total	1,524
Total Males ..	524
Total Females ..	1,000

Analysis of Contraventions

<i>Section</i>	<i>Number of Contraventions found</i>		<i>Section</i>	<i>Number of Contraventions found</i>	
4	Cleanliness	7	13	Sitting facilities	—
5	Overcrowding	—	14	Seats (Sedentary Workers)	—
6	Temperature	9	15	Eating facilities	—
7	Ventilation	2	16	Floors, passage & stairs	27
8	Lighting	5	17	Fencing exposed parts machinery	11
9	Sanitary conveniences	7	18	Protection of young persons from dangerous machinery	—
10	Washing facilities	5	19	Training of young persons working at dangerous machinery	—
11	Supply of drinking water	—	23	Prohibition of heavy work	—
12	Clothing accommodation		24	First aid	9
				Other Matters	12
				Total	94

Exemptions

Number of applications received	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Number of applications granted	(i)	Space	..	..	..	Nil
	(ii)	Temp.	..	..	..	Nil
	(iii)	San. Conv.	..	..	..	Nil
	(iv)	Running Water	..	..	..	Nil

Prosecutions

<i>Number of Prosecutions</i>	<i>Number of Convictions</i>
—	—

Reported Accidents

<i>Workplace</i>	<i>Number Reported</i>		<i>Total Number Investigated</i>	<i>Action recommended</i>			
	<i>Fatal</i>	<i>Non-Fatal</i>		<i>Prose-cution</i>	<i>Formal Warning</i>	<i>Informal Advice</i>	<i>No Action</i>
Offices ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Retail Shops	—	8	2	—	1	1	—
Wholesale shops Warehouses ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Catering establishments open to public, canteens ..	—	2	1	—	1	—	—
Fuel storage depots ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ..	—	10	3	—	2	1	—

Analysis of Reported Accidents

	<i>Offices</i>	<i>Retail</i>	<i>Wholesale Warehouses</i>	<i>Catering establishments open to public, canteens</i>	<i>Fuel Storage Depots</i>
Machinery	—	1	—	1	—
Transport	—	—	—	—	—
Falls of persons ..	—	3	—	1	—
Stepping on or striking against object or persons ..	—	—	—	—	—
Handling goods ..	—	1	—	—	—
Struck by falling object	—	2	—	—	—
Fires and explosions	—	—	—	—	—
Electricity	—	—	—	—	—
Use of hand tools	—	1	—	—	—
Not otherwise specified	—	—	—	—	—

Noise Abatement Act, 1960

Six complaints of noise nuisance were reported all involving excessive noise from pneumatic road drills. The contractors and statutory undertakers were contacted and requested to fix silencers to drills when working in the Urban Area. In all cases the requests were complied with.

	<i>Industrial</i>	<i>Commercial</i>	<i>Domestic</i>	<i>Total</i>
Number of nuisances confirmed	6	—	—	6
Number of nuisances remedied informally ..	6	—	—	6
Number of abatement notices under Section 1 ..	—	—	—	—
Number of nuisance orders under Section 1	—	—	—	—

FACTORIES ACT 1961

PART ONE OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for the purpose of the provisions as to health (including inspections made by the PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR).

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Number of</i>		<i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i>
		<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written Notices</i>	
1. Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority.. ..	—	—	—	—
2. Factories not included in 1, in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	52	27	8	—
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-worker's premises)	6	5	3	—
Total	58	32	11	—

2.—Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number of cases in which defects</i>				<i>Number of cases in prosecutions were instituted</i>
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Referred</i>		
			<i>To H.M. Inspector</i>	<i>By H.M. Inspector</i>	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) Unreasonable	—	—	—	—	—
Temperature (S.3) Inadequate	—	—	—	—	—
Ventilation (S.4) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage to floors (S.6) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient ..	2	2	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	9	7	—	2	—
(c) Not sep. for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
Total	11	9	—	2	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK

(Sections 133 and 134)

<i>Nature of Work</i> (1)	Section 133			Section 134		
	<i>No. of outworkers in August list required by section 133(1)(c)</i> (2)	<i>No. of cases of default in sending lists to Council</i> (3)	<i>No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists</i> (4)	<i>No. of Instances of work in unwholesome premises</i> (5)	<i>Notices Served</i> (6)	<i>Prosecutions</i> (7)
Wearing } Making etc. .. Apparel } Cleaning and .. Washing ..	3 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
TOTAL	3	—	—	—	—	—

10. RATS AND MICE (Prevention of Damage by Pests) Act, 1949

	Type of property	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
1. Number of properties in district ..	9,053 (8,869)	8 (10)
2. (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	250 (358)	— (—)
(b) Number infested by:—		
(i) Rats	142 (137)	— (—)
(ii) Mice	108 (49)	— (—)
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	254 (235)	8 (9)
(b) Number infested by:—		
(i) Rats	160 (53)	— (—)
(ii) Mice	94 (36)	— (—)

(Last years figures are given in parenthesis)

Rodent Control

264 complaints of rodent infestation were received during the year an increase on 64 of the previous year.

The number of visits made by your rodent operator was 738 which included investigation and “ follow up” treatments.

Investigations of Infestation Complaints

	Notification	Visits by Rodent Operative following complaints	Insects etc.
January	25	30	—
February	17	50	2
March	33	107	2
April	18	57	10
May	23	26	18
June	18	55	4
July	14	45	8
August	15	53	3
September	19	69	3
October	21	71	3
November	30	102	1
December	31	103	2
Total	264	768	56

Sewer Treatments

The annual treatment of sewers was carried out during the year and baits were laid in 133 manholes. There were 7 takes recorded indicating small infestations of rats. The number of visits made in this connection was 150.

SECTION D

There were 239 Council houses completed during the year. 15 were completed by private builders.

Houses Built since 1953.

	1953-1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	Total
New Permanent Council Houses	584	129	122	70	43	84	53	54	109	65	33	16	26	4	239	1,631
Re-Lets	309	101	76	118	146	117	104	122	157	113	130	138	206	178	240	2,255
Private	78	8	23	39	72	98	131	143	120	184	143	161	138	6	15	1,359

Rehousing

Rehousing on medical priority was granted to 10 families during the year. 12 families were rehoused from condemned property.

Rehousing from condemned property for the past ten years:—

1962	..	..	28
1963	..	..	49
1964	..	..	23
1965	..	..	40
1966	..	..	21
1967	..	..	31
1968	..	..	19
1969	..	..	19
1970	..	..	8
1971	..	..	12

Unfit Houses

During the year representation were made to the Council concerning 29 houses comprising 32 dwellings. Demolition orders were made on 28 houses and a closing order in respect of the remaining house.

Improvement Grants

Following the Council's decision in the previous year to approve grants for bringing houses to a higher standard and the introduction of the Housing Act 1971 which increased Grant Aid to 75% of the approved cost, 50 applications were received and approved. It is anticipated that the number of applications will increase considerably as the increased provisions become known and that many older houses will be improved to provide adequate accommodation.

13 houses were improved during the year and £8,386 paid in respect of grants.

Standard Grants

During the year 49 applications for Standard Grant were approved.

49 houses were improved with grant aid.

<i>Summary</i>					1971	<i>Total</i> 1959/1971
Number of applications approved	..	..	..	..	49	422
Number of houses improved	..	..	..	..	49	351
Amount paid in grants	..	..	..	..	£12,422	£60,100
<i>Amenities Provided</i>						
Fixed Baths	..	..	..	..	38	288
Wash Hand Basin	..	..	..	..	45	412
Sinks	..	..	..	..	26	43
Hot Water Supply	..	..	..	..	45	346
Internal W.C.	..	..	..	..	49	340

Qualification Certificates

The Housing Act 1969 provides that an owner of a dwelling having a controlled tenancy may make application for a qualification certificate to enable him to apply to the Rent Officer for the tenancy to be changed to a Regulated tenancy subject to the dwelling being provided with all the standard amenities and being in a state of good repair.

18 applications were received during the year but only ten certificates were issued.

In the remaining cases the qualifying conditions were not met and the owners were informed and given the opportunity of bringing their dwellings up to standard.

SECTION E

Inspection and Supervision of Food and Food Premises

Premises to which the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations apply placed in groups according to principal trade:—

Licenced Clubs	..	..	..	..	..	9
General Dealers	..	..	..	..	..	38
Dispensing Chemists	..	..	..	..	..	5
Confectioner (Sweets)	..	..	..	..	..	10
Confectioner (Bakery)	..	..	..	..	..	9
Fish and Chip Shops	..	..	..	..	..	7
Butcher	..	..	..	..	..	5
Cafes and Restaurants	..	..	..	..	..	12
Public Houses	..	..	..	..	..	19
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	..	..	..	..	..	8
Canteens	..	..	..	..	..	6
Ice Cream Factories	..	..	..	..	..	1
Wet Fish Shops	..	..	..	..	..	3
Bakery	..	..	..	..	..	2
School Kitchens and Canteens	..	..	..	..	..	5
Pasteurised Liquid Egg Factory	..	..	..	..	..	1
Total					..	140

Food Premises

Regular inspections were made of premises to which the Regulations applied. Particular attention was given to catering premises and to premises where open food was sold.

Licenced Premises

A survey was made of all licenced premises and samples were taken of water used for glass washing and swabs from washed glasses and equipment.

	<i>Number of Samples or Swabs taken</i>	<i>Positive Results Indicating Contamination</i>
Washing Water ..	30	27
Washed Glasses ..	64	34
Washing Equipment ..	10	7

These results indicated that cleaning methods and equipment were inadequate. As a result a leaflet was prepared giving advice on cleaning methods etcetera and the matter of inadequate equipment was taken up with the licencees and owners of premises. As a result, improvements were made both in regard to equipment and techniques.

Dats Stamping of Food

Prepackaged food was regularly inspected when inspections were made under the Food Hygiene Regulations. In most cases products are stamped with a code which indicates either the date of production or the date by which the product should be sold. There are no standardised codes and each manufacturer may use a different code. This makes it difficult for shopkeepers and the public to determine if the food is in a fresh condition.

Many cases were found of food being displayed for sale after the date indicated, many shopkeepers and assistants did not understand the codes or were not issued with a coding chart. In such cases advice was given on stock rotation, coding procedures and also the products removed from sale.

This indicates the need for a standardised code, prominently displayed on the product which can be readily identified by shopkeepers and members of the public, in addition advice on storage conditions and temperature should be incorporated on the package.

Milk and Dairies

Only milk of specified designations may be sold in the district. The granting of Dealers Licenses authorising the use of special designations is the responsibility of the Durham County Council.

The County Council staff take samples of milk for examination and copies of the results are sent to the Chester-le-Street Urban District Council, Health Department. In all 98 samples were reported on, the results are shown in the table below:—

<i>Designation</i>							
Untreated	..	..	..	..	12		
Pasteurised	..	..	..	..	60		
Sterilised	..	..	..	..	22		
U.H.T.	..	..	..	..	4		
<i>Test Result</i>					<i>Passed</i>	<i>Void</i>	<i>Failed</i>
Methylene Blue Test		..	..		66	3	3
Phosphatase Test	..	..	..		60	—	—
Turbidity Test	..	..	..		22	—	—
Biological Test for T.B.	..	..	..		4	—	—
Antibiotic Test	..	..	..		12	—	—
Colony Count	..	..	..		4	—	—

Meat and Other Foods

The following foodstuffs were found by the Public Health Inspector to be unsound and were voluntarily surrendered:—

	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>
Canned Meat & Meat Products.. ..	1	82
Other Canned Foods (Fruit & Vegetables)	2	100
Other Foods		92
Fish & Fish Products		87
		<hr/>
Total ..	6	25
		<hr/>

Food Complaints

16 complaints regarding food sold locally were made to the department. 8 complaints related to the presence of mould, one case concerned the presence of foreign objects and six alleging unsoundness.

Prosecutions

During the year there were 14 prosecutions taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. The fines and costs awarded amounted to £154

SECTION F

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and Other Diseases

There were 39 notifications of Infectious Diseases during 1971 as compared with 70 for 1970. Of the 39 cases 28 were measles.

Measles

The figure of 28 notifications in 1971 indicates that further effort is needed to get children vaccinated against the disease.

Scarlet Fever

There was only one case notified during the year.

Tuberculosis

The new cases notified in 1971 numbered 6. This reduction from the previous year's figure of 10 is a considerable improvement but is still higher than had been the case for the years 1967, 1968 and 1969.

Paratyphoid

There were three cases of Enteric Fever notified in the district during the year. This was a family outbreak in which the original case lived in an adjoining district. The organism responsible was identified as *Salmonella Paratyphoid B*.

Cholera

Towards the end of the year following cases of Cholera in Spain a number of contacts in the district were investigated. In all cases the laboratory results were negative.

Immunisation and Vaccination

The figures for the district were:—

			1967	1968	1969	1970	1971
(a)	<i>Diphtheria</i>						
	Primary Immunisation 0-15 years		346	192	264	290	320
	Booster Doses	.. ..	471	321	480	385	372
(b)	<i>Poliomyelitis</i>						
	Primary Doses	.. ..	..	..	..	345	
	Booster Doses	.. ..	..	..	..	303	
(c)	<i>Smallpox</i>	.. ..				
	Primary Vaccination	.. ..	..	..	..	96	
	Re-Vaccination	.. ..	..	..	..	15	
(d)	<i>Measles</i>						
	Primary Immunisation	.. ..	..	..	..	271	
(e)	<i>Rubella</i>						
	Primary Immunisation	.. ..	..	..	..	136	

Smallpox Vaccination

During the year the Department of Health & Social Security advised that vaccination against Smallpox need not now be recommended as a routine procedure in early childhood. Travellers to and from endemic areas should still be vaccinated as should Health Service Staff who might come into contact with patients.

B.C.G.

The B.C.G. scheme for vaccination of 11 year old children was carried out as normal.

In co-operation with the Chest Physician tuberculin positive cases were x-rayed.

The figures were as follows:—

<i>School</i>	<i>Number Tuberculin Tested</i>	<i>Number Positive</i>	<i>Per cent Positive</i>	<i>Number Vaccinated</i>
Deanery Secondary	107	11	10.2	96
Hermitage Secondary	63	6	9.6	53
Total ..	170	17	10.0	149

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1970

	Under 1 year	1—5 years	6—15 years	16—25 years	26—45 years	46—65 years	66 and up	Age Unknown	All Ages	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total Notifications	Admitted to Hospital
Measles	4	9	9	1	2	—	—	3	28	1	2	—	3	6	13	—	—	—	1	2	—	28	—
Scarlet Fever ..	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—
Tuberculosis (Pul.) ..	—	2	1	—	3	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	4	—	—	6	2
Paratyphoid ..	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Meningococcal Infection	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1

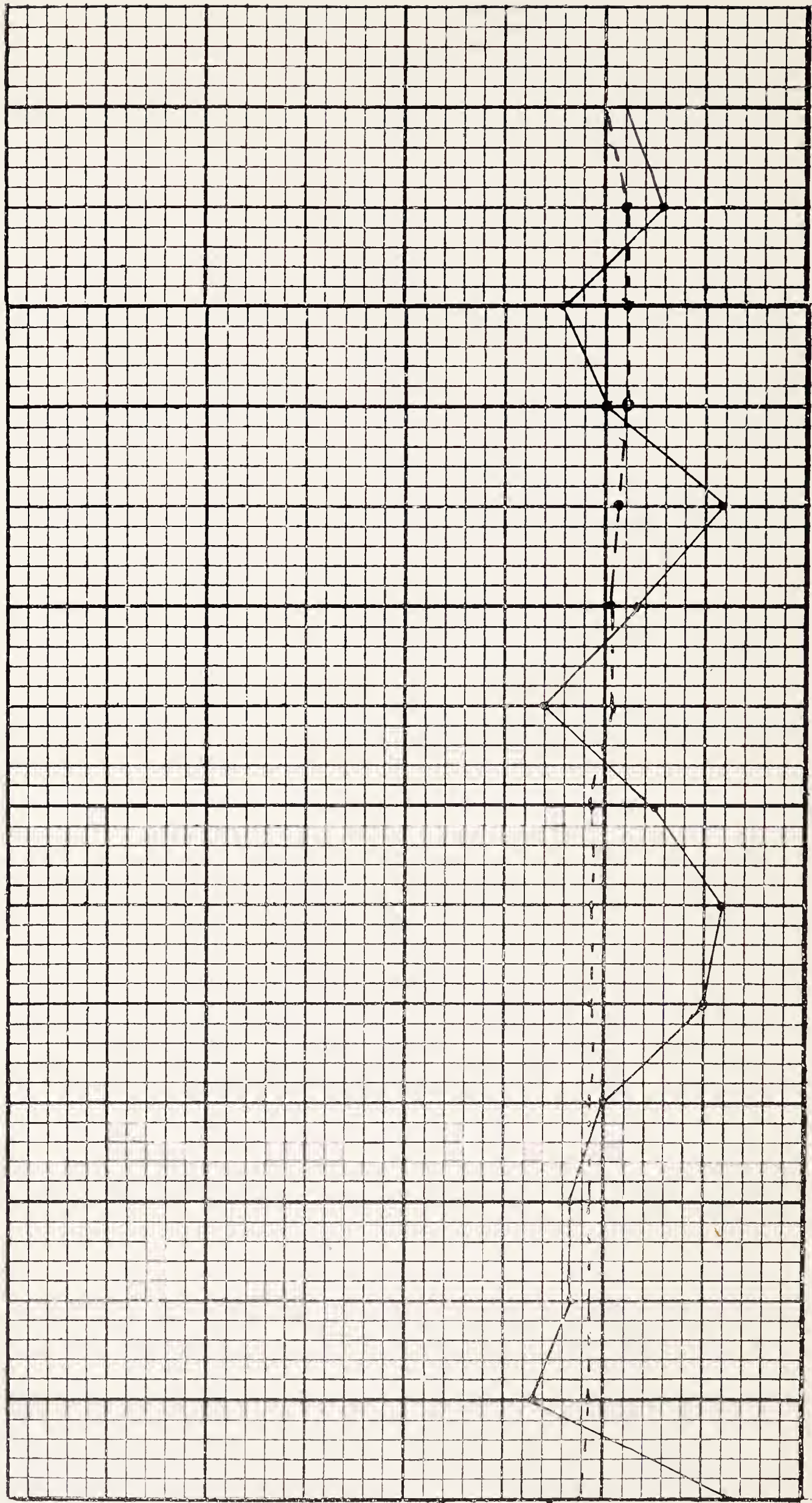
INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED SINCE 1954

	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971
Scarlet Fever	7	4	7	14	6	3	—	1	1	4	6	—	—	—	—	3	—	2
Enteric Fever (including Para-typhoid fever)	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
Pneumonia	13	9	2	8	2	4	9	6	6	7	13	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	1	—	1	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	17	18	38	9	13	7	15	—	4	14	9	3	5	—	—	3	—	—
Measles	18	131	18	264	14	251	14	282	6	276	55	146	344	77	160	7	57	28
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	1	8	3	2	—	—	—	1	1	—
Polioomyelitis	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	3	1	2	3	—	—	—	1	—	8	8	6	3	—	4	—	—	—
Tuberculosis (Pul.)	15	16	14	10	8	9	6	11	10	6	4	11	7	3	5	1	9	6
Tuberculosis (Non-Pul.)	4	1	2	2	2	3	—	1	1	—	3	1	—	—	1	—	1	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Acute Encephalitis (Infective)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infective Jaundice	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	1	—

CHESTER-LE-STREET U.D. —————
ENGLAND AND WALES - - - - -

INFANT MORTALITY RATES

RATE PER
1000 LIVE BIRTHS



1957

1958

1959

1960

1961

1962

1963

1964

1965

1966

1967

1968

1969

1970

1971

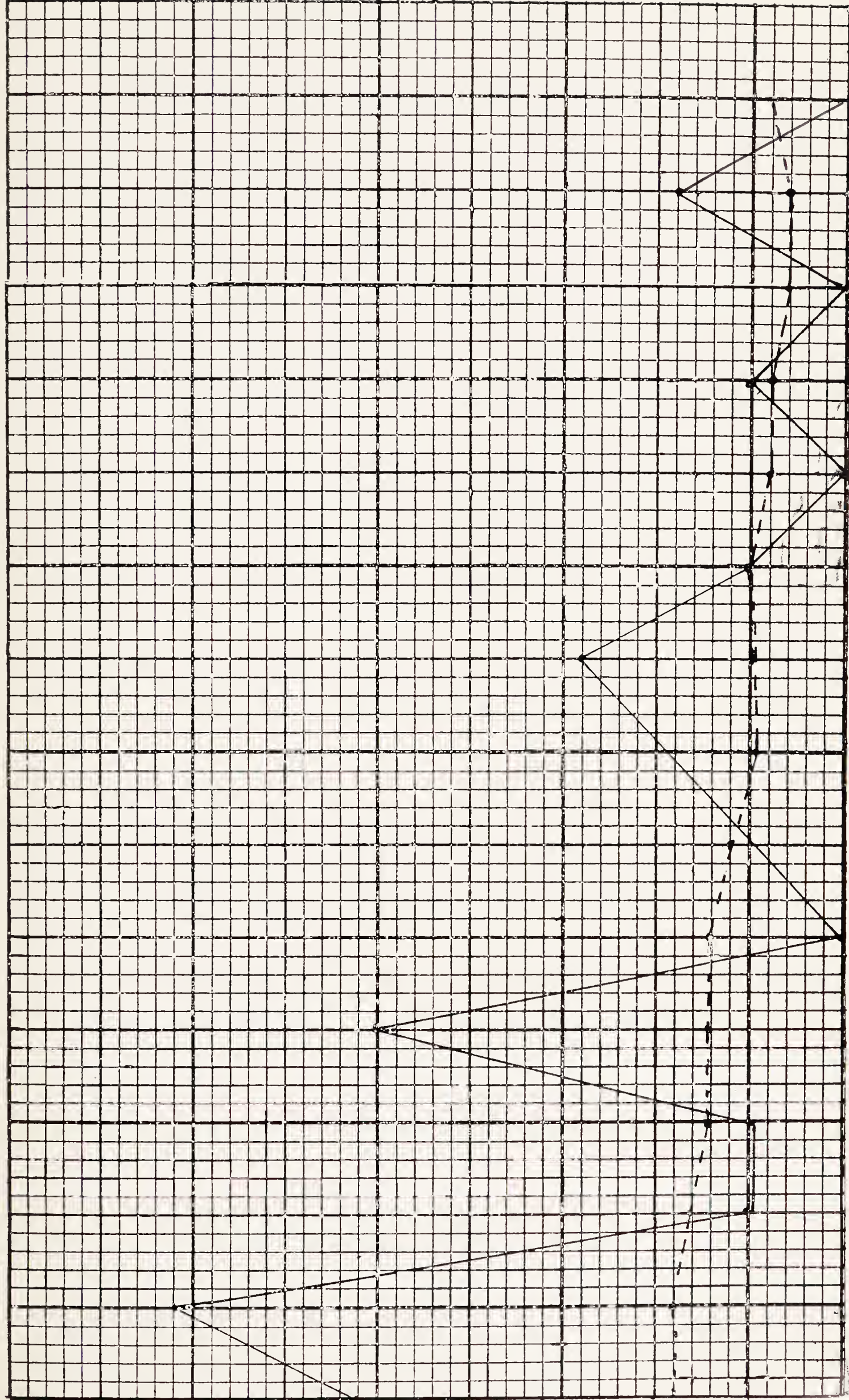
1972

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS DEATH RATE

RATE PER 1000 POPULATION

CHESTER-LE-STREET U.D. _____

ENGLAND AND WALES - - - - -



1957 1958 1959 1960 1961 1962 1963 1964 1965 1966 1967 1968 1969 1970 1971 1972

